

# ARNOLD & PORTER

Joseph A. Micallef  
Joseph\_Micallef@aporter.com

202.942.5721  
202.942.5999 Fax

555 Twelfth Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20004-1206

December 17, 2001

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231



Re: U.S. Application No. 09/951,545  
Filed: September 14, 2001  
Title: *Method and Apparatus for Endoscope System*  
Inventors: Gatto, et al.  
Atty. Docket: 16150.006

Sir:

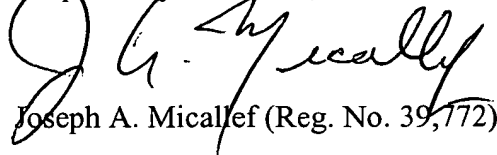
The following documents are forwarded herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. PTO Form-1449 (3 pages) with 63 accompanying documents; and
3. a return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the filing date of these documents and returned to our courier.

As the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the first action on the merits, Applicants do not believe that any fees are due in conjunction with this filing. If any fees are due in conjunction with this filing the Commissioner is authorized to charge the fees to Arnold & Porter deposit account 50-1824, referencing matter number 16150.006.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Joseph A. Micallef (Reg. No. 39,772)

Enclosures